

### Remarks

The status of the claims is as follows. Claims 1-14 were originally filed and were canceled in a Preliminary Amendment, in which Claims 15-42 were added. Claims 15-42 were subject to restriction. Claims 1-37, 39-42, 43, 44 and 46 were previously canceled and Claims 43-56 were previously added. Claim 50 was withdrawn from consideration in a previous office action and has been canceled herein. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications to the separately patentable subject matter of the canceled claims. Thus, Claims 38, 45, 47-49 and 51-56 are currently pending. Claims 38 and 49 have been canceled herein. Applicant reserves the right to file a continuation application to the subject matter thereof.

### Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 38 and 49 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown, *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,807,522) (Brown) in view of Eriksson (U.S. Patent No. 3,642,450) for the reasons of record.

Claims 38 and 49 have been canceled rendering the rejection of those claims moot. However, the cancellation of claims 38 and 49 should not be construed as acquiescence by Applicant in the arguments presented in the Office Action.

### Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action indicated that claims 45, 47 and 48 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant amended claim 45 in Applicant's previous response to place it in independent form. Therefore, claim 45, as well as claims 47 and 48, which depend from claim 45, should be allowable. Furthermore, in Applicant's previous response Applicant added claim 56, which depends from claim 45. Claim 56 was not mentioned in the Office Action. However, claim 56 should be allowable at least by virtue of its dependency from claim 45, which is allowable.

### Allowed Claims

Claims 51-55 were allowed.

Conclusion

Claims 38 and 49 were canceled. Claim 45 was previously rewritten in independent form and is, therefore, allowable as are those claims (47, 48 and 56) depending therefrom. Claims 51-55 were allowed. Allowance of the above-identified patent application, it is submitted, is in order.

Applicant requests the entry of the above amendment since it narrows the number of issues and places the application in an allowable condition.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Theodore J. Leitereg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Theodore" and last name "Leitereg" clearly distinguishable.

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